

# IDAHO PLUMBING BOARD MEETING

**Friday – February 8, 2008 – 9:00 A.M.**

**Division of Building Safety  
Board Conference Room  
1090 East Watertower Street, Meridian, ID 83642**

*NOTE: The following report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript of the discussions at the meeting, but is intended to record the significant features of those discussions.*

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ray Coon at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, February 8, 2008.

## **Board Members:**

Ray Coon, Chairman  
Milford Terrell  
Gordon Smythe  
Ronald Loveland

## **DBS Staff Members:**

C. Kelly Pearce, Administrator  
Steve Keys, Deputy Administrator, Operations  
Roger Gabel, Deputy Attorney General  
Carl Lohrengel, Plumbing/HVAC Bureau Chief  
Kirk Weiskircher, Financial Specialist, Principal  
Janice Foster, Human Resource Specialist, Sr.  
Al Caine, Licensing & Compliance Manager  
Bill Hatch, Public Information Officer  
Brandee Pasborg, Office Specialist 2  
Danielle Lefler, Administrative Assistant 2  
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2  
Office Services Group Staff

Pete Peterson, Plumbing/HVAC Inspector Supervisor  
John Nielson, Plumbing/HVAC Inspector  
Jake Wood, Plumbing/HVAC Inspector  
Chris Critser, Plumbing/HVAC Inspector Supervisor  
Rick Brown, Plumbing/HVAC Inspector Supervisor  
Terry Blessing, Consultation and Outreach Advisor  
Chris Jensen, Consultation and Outreach Advisor  
Rusty Boyer, Plumbing Plans Examiner  
Rod Samuelson, Plumbing/HVAC Inspector  
Jim Duncan, Plumbing/HVAC Inspector  
Joel Hemenway, Plumbing/HVAC Inspector

Kelly Pearce introduced the newest additions to the Division; Kirk Weiskircher, Financial Specialist, Principal and Janice Foster, Human Resource Specialist, Sr.

## ◆ **Audio Streaming**

This meeting and future meetings will be broadcast “live” through a link on the Division Board’s website titled, “Audio Streaming for Board Meetings”.

## ◆ **On-Line Board Packets**

Board packets will be available for viewing and/or downloading from the Division Board’s website. To access a packet click on the link next to the coinciding agenda named, “Board Packet”.

## ◆ **Open Forum**

Ray Coon changed the “Open Forum” process. Prior to meetings commencing, a sign-up sheet will be available for anyone interested in posing questions, comments and/or wanting to testify before the Board.

**ACTION:** The Division to create an “Open Forum” sign-up sheet for the April Board meeting.

IPEX – Roy Pyper, Regional Manager for IPEX, gave a brief description of the company and product (PEX-AL-PEX) he represents. Only one plumbing application has been installed in Idaho. Potentially faulty pipes, due to a manufacturing defect, were installed at that site.

Milford Terrell has a personal interest in this topic. Therefore, he will continue to be involved in the dialog between the Board and IPEX; however, will abstain from future voting.

**ACTION:** Milford Terrell requested Mr. Pyper obtain the percentage of failed pipes sold by IPEX and the process in which IPEX rectified those issues.

**ACTION:** Mr. Pyper to inform the Board of how many hydronic/radiant applications have been sold in Idaho.

♦ **Approval of February 8, 2008 Agenda**

**MOTION:** Milford Terrell made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Ron Loveland seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

♦ **Approval of October 19, 2007 Board Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Ron Loveland made a motion to approve the minutes. Milford Terrell seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

♦ **Financial Report**

Kirk Weiskircher reviewed the financial report. A spreadsheet has been created to correctly calculate the appropriate percentage each Bureau must pay towards future invoices.

Ron Loveland requested an additional column, to the far right and bottom, be added to the fiscal report showing percentages used throughout the fiscal year.

**ACTION:** The Bureau to incorporate a bar/line chart into the Financial Report for all future board meetings.

♦ **Exam Summary Report**

Al Caine reviewed the I.C.C. Plumbing Exam and the Plumbing Journeyman First Exam Attempt Reports.

♦ **Request for Administrative Appeals Hearing**

Arthur George Urquidi (NOV #PLB-396) – Neither Mr. Urquidi, nor representative for Mr. Urquidi, was present for his scheduled appeals hearings; therefore, abandoning his appeal. Deputy Attorney General Roger Gabel's recommendation to the Board was for him to draft a letter to Mr. Urquidi stating his appeal was abandoned and the penalty stood as issued.

The Board unanimously agreed for Roger Gabel to move forward with his recommendation.

**ACTION:** At the April Board meeting, Al Caine and/or Roger Gabel to fully explain the procedures for penalties and hearings.

◆ **Notice of Violations/Compliance Issues**

The Notice of Violation Legend (violation codes), as well as reports on NOVs, CPs and Active/Suspended Apprentice/Journeymen Licenses were briefly addressed.

◆ **Apprenticeship Training**

The BSU apprenticeship program is estimated to transition over to the College of Western Idaho in the fall of 2009.

BSU has tentatively scheduled a statewide meeting to review/revise their curriculum. Instructors from the five professional/technical schools will participate in this meeting. Ed Howland will update the Board on the revamping of the curriculum.

Milford Terrell addressed the prospect of a one-year (full-time) “Day” Program; targeting recent high school graduates. College credit, financial aid and/or special funding would be a possibility. Upon completion of the program, students would finish their on-the-job training.

**ACTION:** The Division will coordinate a sub-committee to address a “Day” Program. The sub-committee will be comprised of representatives from the Electrical, HVAC and Plumbing Boards, CWI officials and Rosie Rosco of BSU.

◆ **Contractor’s License Number Displayed on Vehicles/Business Cards/Advertising**

Unlicensed individuals are advertising their plumbing services on the Internet. One deterrent would be to display state license numbers on all forms of advertising.

**MOTION:** Ron Loveland made a motion to modify the law in which any unlicensed person soliciting work, normally required by a licensed person, would be in violation of the law. Gordon Smythe seconded.

**MOTION:** Milford Terrell made a motion to table the solicitation issue until the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting; expanding on the motion as to the Board’s desire and legality of this matter. Ronald Loveland seconded. All Ayes.

**MOTION:** Ron Loveland made a motion to include the topic, “License Numbers on Vehicles”, to the April 11<sup>th</sup> agenda. Milford Terrell seconded. All Ayes.

**ACTION:** Topics, “Contractor’s License Number Displayed on Vehicles/Business Cards/Advertising” and “Non-Licensed Contractor’s Soliciting Plumbing Services”, to be included on the April 11<sup>th</sup> agenda.

◆ **Waterless Urinal**

Kohler and Zurn brand waterless urinals are used at the Bogus Basin and University of Idaho test sites. Jake Wood differentiated between the two brands, as well as explained their cleaning methods.

**ACTION:** The Bureau to look at the effect the urinal blocks/cakes have on the chemicals; bringing their findings to the April 11, 2008 meeting.

**ACTION:** Users of the waterless urinals are encouraged to submit testimonials to Administrator Pearce, via e-mail or U.S. mail, no later than Friday, March 21, 2008.

♦ **Legislative Report**

Following are the proposed rules presented during the 2008 Legislative Session: Installers of water conditioning systems to hold a specialty, journeyman or contractor license; sidewall vents and limited use of air admittance valves; residential flat rate fee, based on square footage and civil penalties.

There are concerns, within the Senate, of the civil penalties language. The Bureau to locate the original/approved language prior to the Board addressing this matter.

HB0478 (Revise registration period and registration fee for apprentices) and HB0481a, (Remove exemption from licensing for water treatment installers and redefining farm buildings) are currently pending.

**ACTION:** The Bureau to further research, for the Board, the original language in which civil penalties would not be applicable to Plumbing contractors.

**ACTION:** The Bureau to note, on their website, the dates/times of House Bills H0478 and H0481a hearings.

♦ **Bond/Liability Insurance**

This topic was postponed until future notice.

♦ **Comparison of 2006 IPC/UPC**

John Nielson, through a PowerPoint presentation, briefly compared the 2006 Uniform Plumbing and International Plumbing Codes.

The Bureau to thoroughly review both codes; bringing back detailed comparisons and a recommendation on the code best suited for Idaho.

The Bureau to further research the number of pages, from additional code books, required to install gas/electric water heaters; as well as, pursue written statements/communications from surrounding states explaining their choice of code.

**ACTION:** The Bureau to address this topic, in detail, at the January/February 2009 Board meeting.

♦ **Bushings in Drainage Systems (UPC Section 311.5)**

Chairman Coon stated tapered bushings, not flat face bushings, are better used in drainage lines.

♦ **Proposed Legislation**

Carl Lohrengel presented (informational only) the following legislative proposals:

Contractor License Numbers Displayed on Advertising (I.C. 54-2618) – This item discussed earlier in the meeting.

Certificate of Competency Renewal (IDAPA 07.02.05.016.02) – Continuing education requirements for journeymen and contractors. Also, create a one percent (1%) Plumbing Continuing Education Fund to off-set costs.

Residential Journeyman License (IDAPA 07.02.05) and Scope of Work (IDAPA 07.02.05.012.02) – Must have three years experience as an apprentice making plumbing installations under the constant on-the-job supervision of a qualified journeyman plumber. A Residential Journeyman fulfills the constant on-the-job supervision for single family residential buildings and residential remodels only.

Registration of Idaho Inspectors (I.C. 54-2627) – To perform plumbing inspections, all state inspectors shall be certified by a state approved agency, i.e., IAPMO and complete a minimum of eight (8) hours of continuing education yearly.

Plumbing Plan Review Specialist - To perform plumbing plan reviews, an individual shall be registered with the state as a Plan Review Specialist, certified by a state approved agency, i.e., IAPMO and complete a minimum of eight (8) hours of continuing education yearly.

Contractor Licensing – A business, not an individual, shall hold a contractor license. The business must employ a qualifier at a master level, currently a contractor level.

Non-Water Urinals (I.C. 402.3.1) – The verbiage from the '09 proposed UPC print was approved at the October 19, 2007 Plumbing Board meeting.

**MOTION:** Milford Terrell made a motion for the Bureau to further research the pending administrative rules and legislative proposals; returning, at a future date, with additional information. Gordon Smythe seconded. Three ayes, one abstention (Ray Coon).

♦ **Bureau Chief's Report**

Carl Lohrengel presented his report via PowerPoint presentation.

Bureau Activity – Permit/inspection/license counts, inspector training (UPC update/product training) and introduction of new inspectors.

2007 IAPMO Conference – Voted on proposed code changes, code workshops, UPC/UMC, Chapter Summit, Panel Discussions and tour the UA Training center.

Gray Water Task Force – The Task Force to review, modify and intergrade the gray water language into the code. Upon acceptance by the Technical Committee in May, the language will appear in Chapter 16 of the 2009 UPC.

Product Certification Committee – Carl Lohrengel received an appointment to this committee. The Committee works with IAPMO's Research and Development team and reviews new products seeking acceptance with the UPC.

Council of Cities – This project created by Pete Peterson. Local plumbing inspectors meet periodically; working together to unify inspection support throughout the state.

New Inspection Sticker - The Division consolidated inspection stickers; creating one combination (vinyl) sticker. The final positioning will be inside the electrical panel door. It will not replace the ground work or gas stickers.

♦ **Administrator's Report**

Public Service Announcement – Two licensing PSA's were presented by Bill Hatch. With the Board's approval, the Division will distribute the PSA's to radio stations statewide.

**MOTION:** Milford Terrell made a motion for the Bureau to further research the pending administrative rules and legislative proposals; returning, at a future date, with additional information. Gordon Smythe seconded. Three ayes, one abstention (Ray Coon).

Residential Building Trade – The Southwest Idaho Builders Association released a study, based on last calendar year, in which 4600+ homes were built in the valley. Within the last several months, the downturn in construction has been dramatic. There are areas throughout the state where the industry is still booming, however; as a whole, the state is seeing dramatic deterioration in the construction industry.

Open Meeting Laws – Milford Terrell requested Roger Gabel bestow upon the Board a formal presentation on the Open Meeting Laws.

To establish a commonality among the Boards, Kelly Pearce intends to create/provide training on the Open Meeting/Board Meeting laws. A training DVD would also be available to newly appointed Board Members.

**ACTION:** Roger Gabel to create/present training on the Open Meeting Laws to the Board no later than January 2009.

**MOTION:** Ron Loveland made a motion to adjourn. Gordon Smythe seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

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RAYMOND COON, CHAIRMAN  
PLUMBING BOARD

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C. KELLY PEARCE, ADMINISTRATOR  
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

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